

U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Eastern District of Virginia*

*World Trade Center 757/441-6331
Suite 8000, 101 West Main Street
Norfolk, Va. 23510*

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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For Further Info:
Deanna Warren (757) 441-6331

Norfolk, Virginia – Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that Antonio Mandell Morris, age 32, of Cheriton, Virginia, was sentenced in U.S. District Court in Norfolk, Virginia, for conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute and distribution of 5 kilograms or more of cocaine.

On May 9, 2002, Morris pled guilty to Count One of a 34-count indictment. Count One charged him with a cocaine conspiracy from January 1996 through February 23, 2002, and a criminal forfeiture. Today, he was sentenced to 262 months imprisonment and forfeiture of clothing, land, guns and two residences.

During the conspiracy Morris received approximately 118 kilograms of cocaine, of which approximately 116 kilograms was converted into crack cocaine for further distribution on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. On February 23, 2002, Morris was arrested after a cooperating co-defendant/co-conspirator did a controlled delivery to Morris of approximately 1.9 kilograms of cocaine and approximately 46.1 grams of crack cocaine.

“Drug traffickers belong in prison. This is one more pusher who will spend many years behind bars for poisoning our society with illegal drugs”, said U.S. Attorney McNulty.

The investigation was conducted by the Eastern Shore Drug Task Force, the Accomack and Northampton Counties Sheriffs’ Departments, the Norfolk and Suffolk Police Departments, the Virginia State Police, and the Drug Enforcement Administration. Assistant United States Attorney Janet S. Reincke prosecuted the case.